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# Claim Checking and Disinformation

CREDWEB MEETING – MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

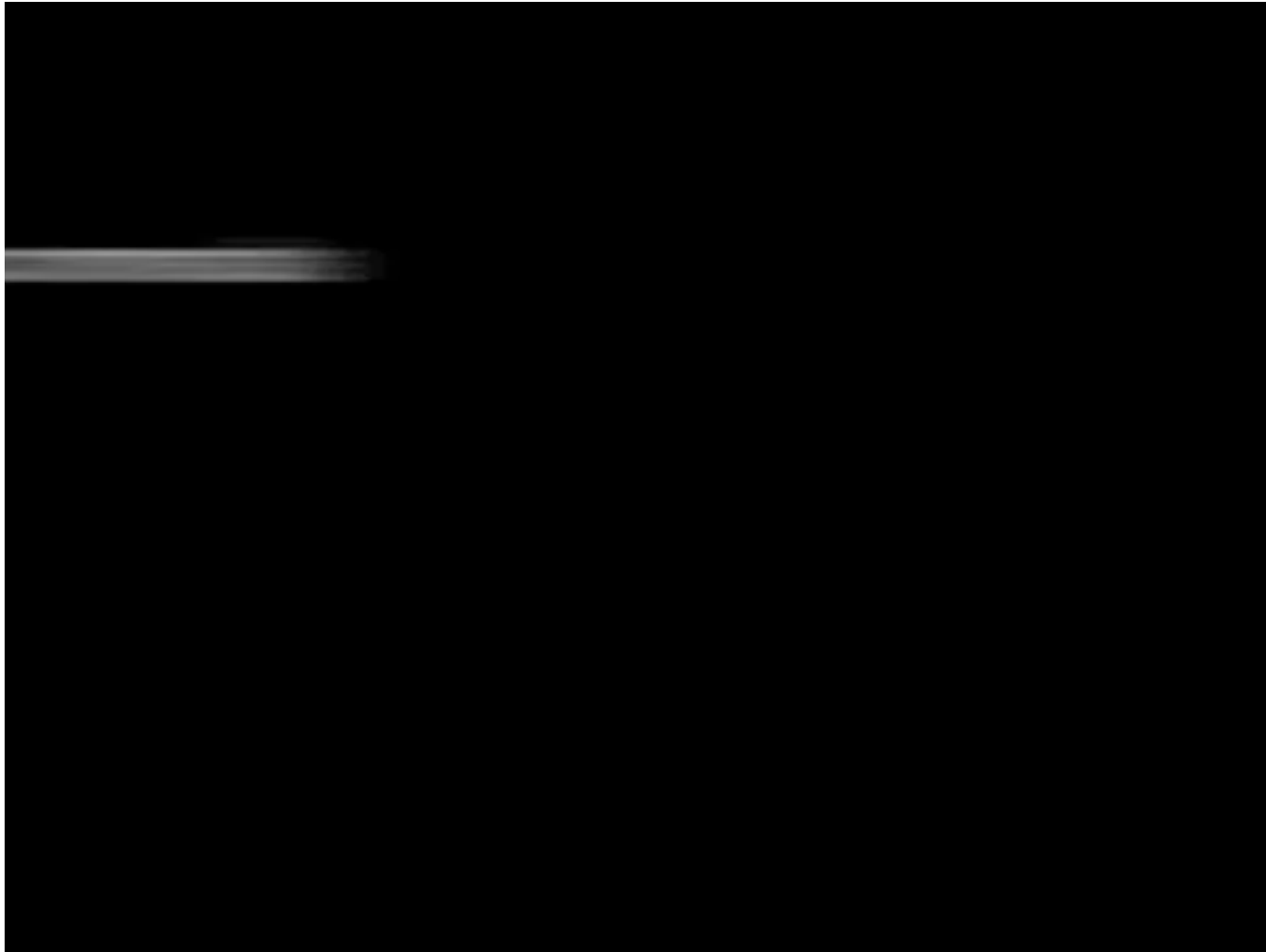
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**DANIEL SCHWABE**



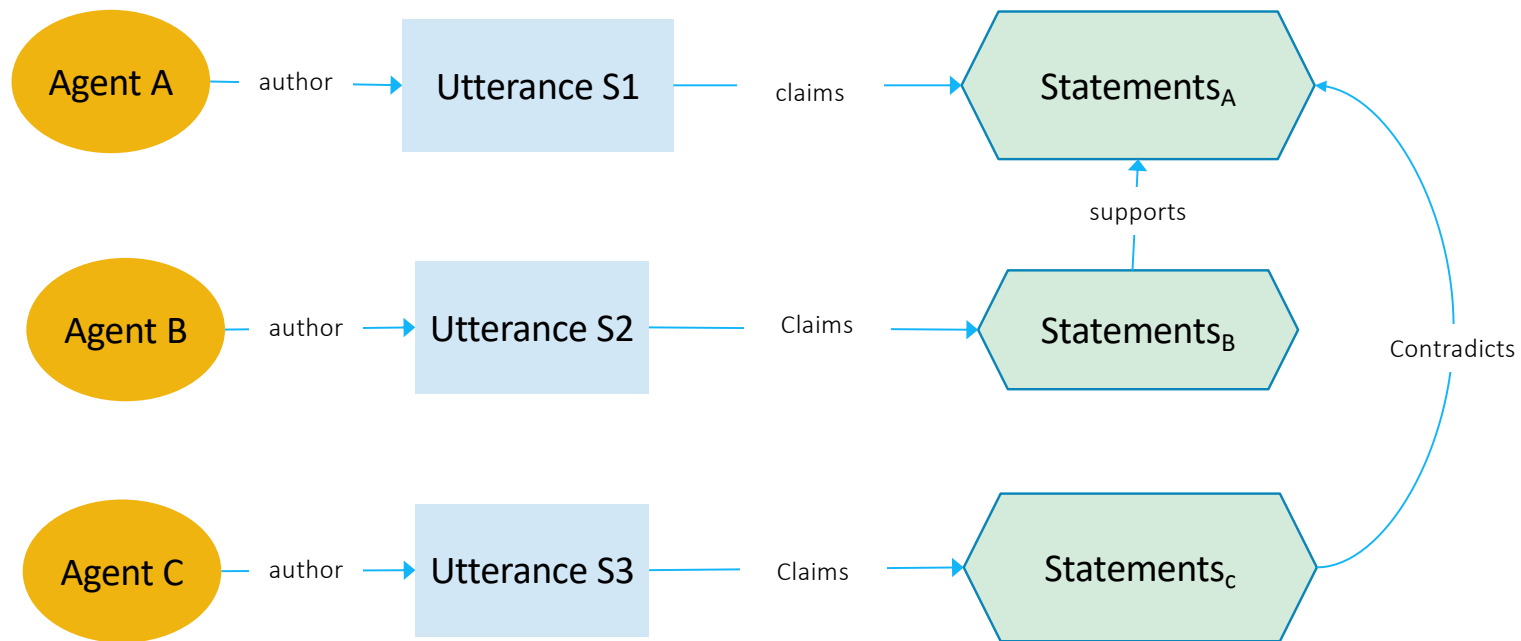
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC44I4IA6ICBI2B0F>

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# Claim Checking structure (simplified)

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# Example

<https://www.politico.com/story/2016/12/trump-drivers-license-height-232948>

POLITICO



Donald Trump is listed as 6-foot-2 on his driver's license.

## Trump's driver's license casts doubt on height claims

By DARREN SAMUELSOHN | 12/23/2016 09:54 AM EST

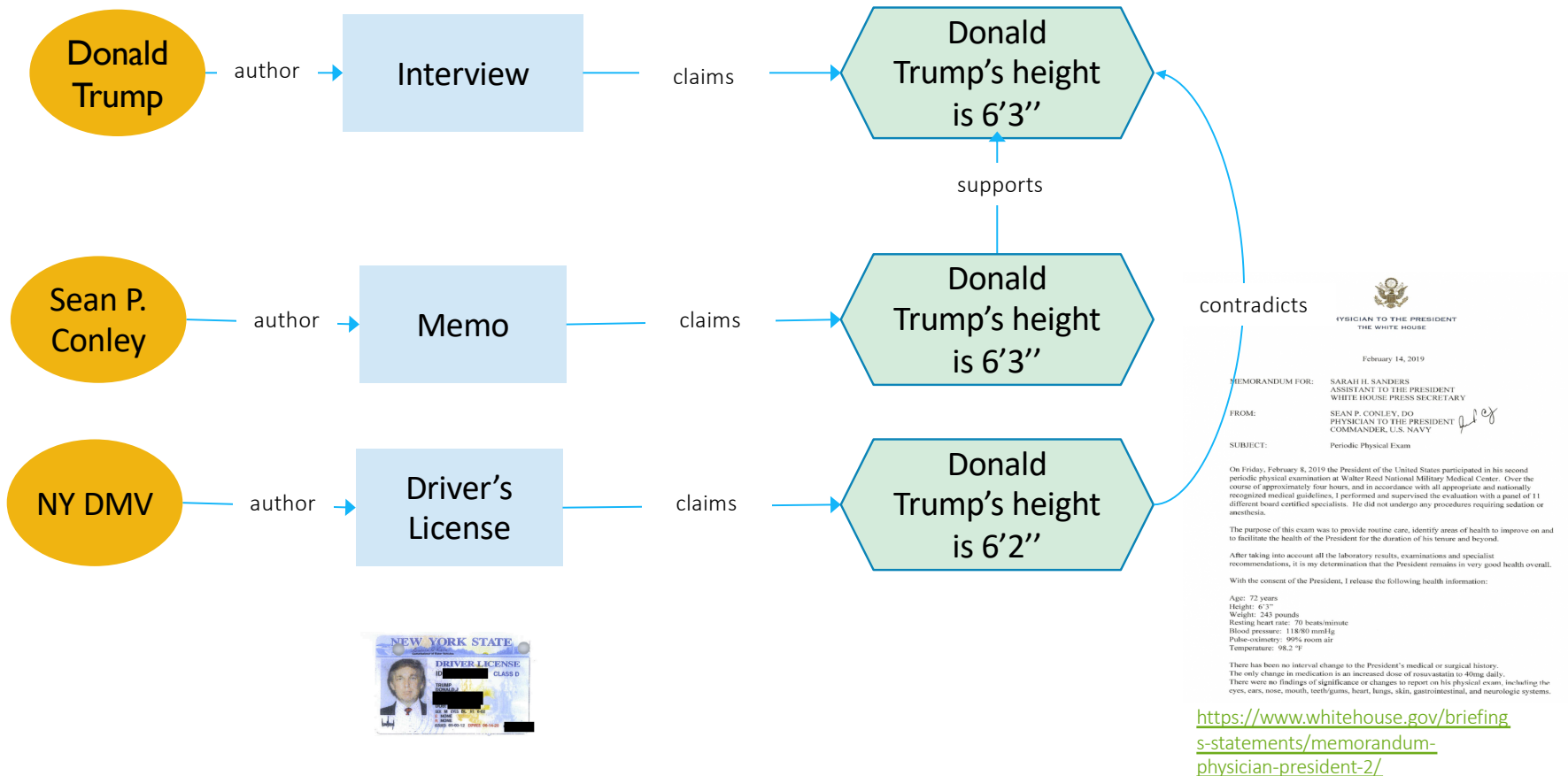
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Donald Trump and his doctor claim he's 6-foot-3, but his New York driver's license says he's actually an inch shorter.

A copy of Trump's license, obtained by POLITICO through an open-records request, lists the president-elect at 6-foot-2.

# Example



# Example 2 (metadata)

FORT BEND NEWS SUBSCI

## Deputy comes across alligator in the street in Fort Bend County

Heather Leighton | April 18, 2017



**Katie Couric**   
@katiecouric

Look who wandered into my friend's Houston 'hood. Everyone affected by Harvey and they r said

5:18 PM Aug 27, 2017

749 352 people are talking about this

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2012/10/sorting-the-real-sandy-photos-from-the-fakes/264243/>

# Claim check process

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- Dispute of Narratives
- Involves a chain of trust
  - Must be anchored
    - Direct experience
    - Social conventions – laws, norms, religion
- Consumption by user
  - Purpose (action?)
    - “Faith”
  - Structure of the narrative
    - Argumentation
  - Elements of the narrative
    - Agents, sources
  - Presentation

# What is trust?

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Social Media/News = a world of *Agents*.

Trust as a *social process*.

Some properties of trust

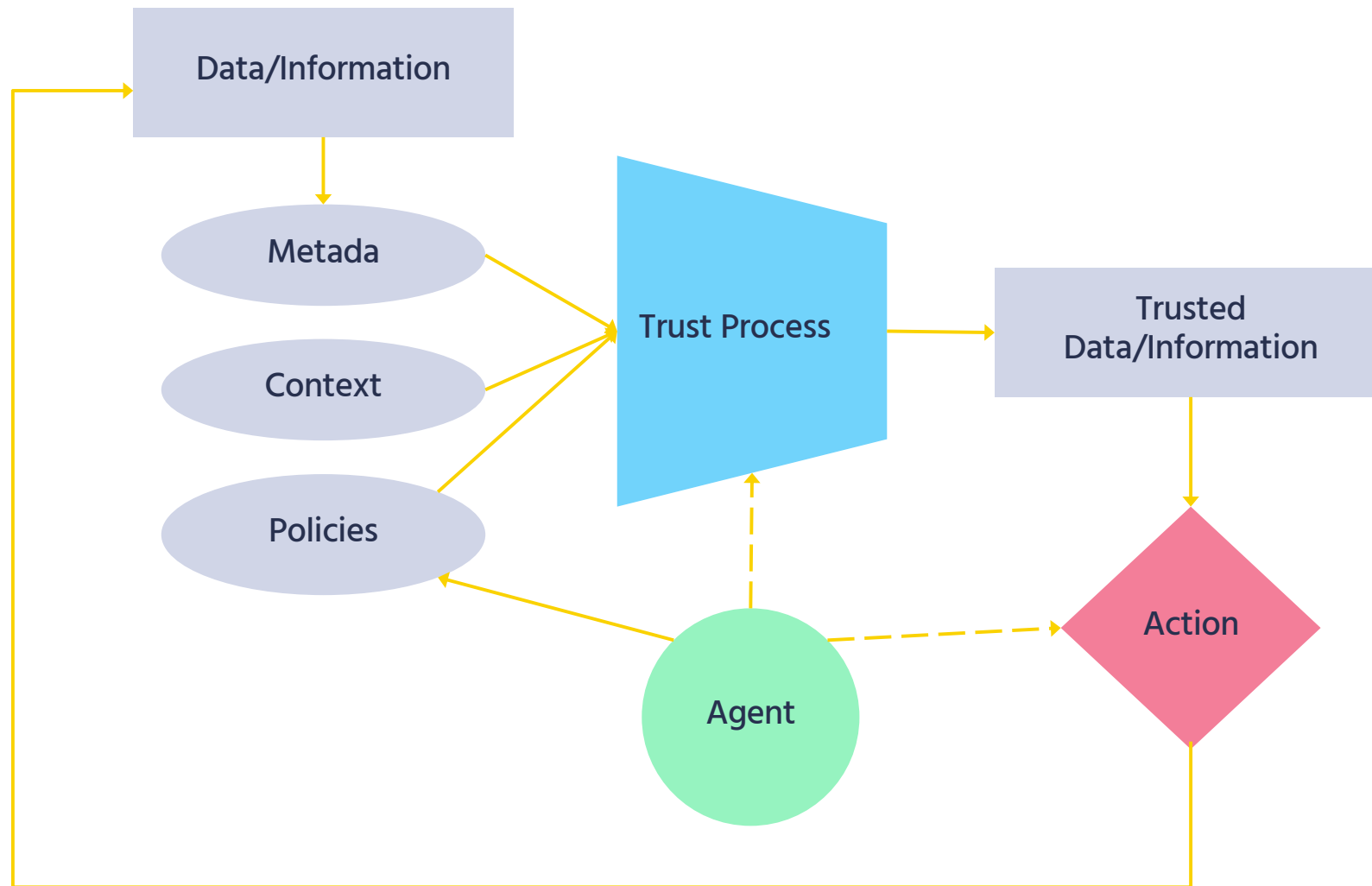
- It only matters when some *action* is involved (Castelfranchi's delegation)
- It is *binary!* You can't "half trust", because you can't "half act"
- It is held towards some *agent* regarding some "matter".

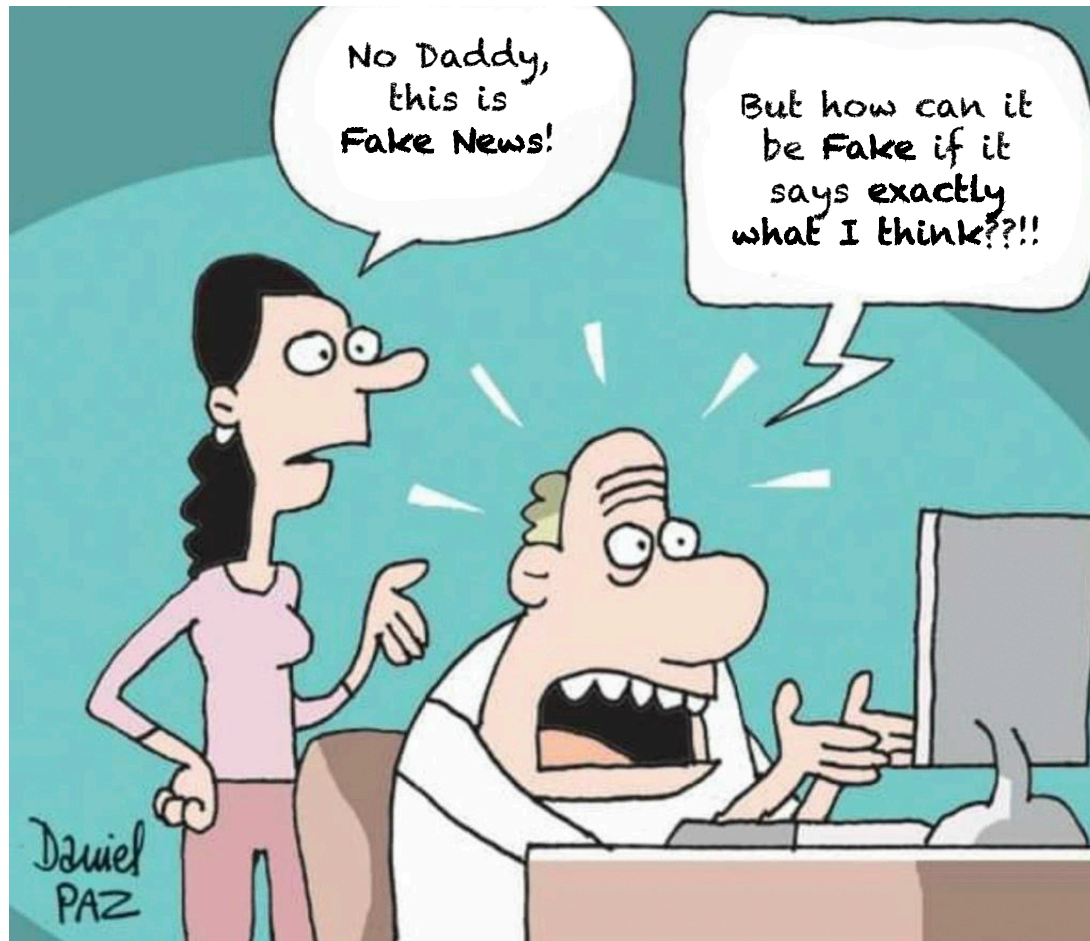
*Gerck*: "Trust is knowledge-based reliance on received information".

- Models of Trust x Trust Models



# Trust Process





# Questions for discussion

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- How do we relate to Value systems?
  - <https://georgelakoff.com/2016/11/22/a-minority-president-why-the-polls-failed-and-what-the-majority-can-do/>
- Does additional info make a difference?
  - “How politics makes us stupid”
    - <http://www.vox.com/2014/4/6/5556462/brain-dead-how-politics-makes-us-stupid>
    - Dan Kahan, “The Politically Motivated Reasoning Paradigm”, Emerging Trends in Social Sciences, 2017
  - People do change positions
    - (Nyhan and Reifer, “ Do People Actually Learn From Fact-Checking? Evidence from a longitudinal study during the 2014 campaign”, <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~nyhan/fact-checking-effects.pdf>)
- Check the “fact checkers”?
  - Petter Bae Brandtzaeg & Asbjørn Følstad, “Trust and Distrust in Online Fact-Checking Services”, Communications of the ACM, forthcoming
- Fake checkers!

# Thanks!

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## References:

[1] Schwabe, Daniel, Carlos Laufer and Antonio Busson. "Building Knowledge Graphs About Political Agents in the Age of Misinformation."

ArXiv abs/1901.11408(2019): <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1901.11408>

[2] Schwabe, Daniel. "Trust and Privacy in Knowledge Graphs."

ArXiv abs/1903.07673 <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1903.07673v1>

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